
ABSTRACTS

The Mediterranean Area. The evolution of the American Strategy

We must remember that the Mediterranean area has been a «zone of vital interest» in the American strategy. The main feature of this strategy is that the security becomes a global theme on a planetary level and that the security is kept with military means.

The American strategy in the area is characterized by both elements: the Mediterranean is considered to be a mere region into the global strategy and the use of military elements to keep the security.

The central aim of this strategy is the containment of the Soviet Union. This aim has changed due to the political events that have taken place beyond the Mediterranean geography (Middle East) and

beyond the technological changes (Trident, Cruiser Missiles).

As a result of it, the USA have tended to expand the OTAN's borders during the last years. The strategic area in the Mediterranean has been spread to the Gulf. Considering the European opposition, the normal failures have become a triumph in the operational field. The creation of the Forces of East Deployment and the modifications made in the Sixth Fleet have followed the ideas of the Atlantic allies. In their turn, these ideas follow the aims of the Reagan government: the collaboration of the European allies in actions that take place out of the areas protected by the OTAN.

Background and causes of the Mexican crisis

The work developed in this paper is equivalent to a report of progress of the Work Group about «International Trade and Underdevelopment», integrated in CIDOB.

This group consists of Manuel García Espina, an economist; Antonio Santamaría, an economist; José Manuel Celorio, an anthropologist and the coordinator, Francesc

Joan, an economist. This team has the aim of analysing the relations between the economical magnitudes that correspond to the exterior relations with the variables that define the levels of socioeconomic development in some countries in Latin America.

Mexico, Chile and Cuba have been chosen for three reasons: a) their political rules are completely different; b) they belong to areas of similar level of development; c) they suffered a grave fi-

nanacial crisis at the beginning of the 80's.

The method followed in the investigation consists of the integration of the evolution of the economy and the exterior relations into the social web that causes them. This is the method followed in the Mexico's case and it is also expected to be used in Chile and Cuba. We hope that in the future the studies about the three countries can be integrated into a whole in order to see the similarities and the differences.

Kwame Nkrumah: Unity and revolution

In 1939 Krame Nkrumah obtained his grade of «bachelor of arts» at Lincoln University (USA). From this moment on he works as a philosophy's teacher assistant, while he studies political philosophy and theology. Also at this moment he is president of the Africa Students Association of United States and Canada.

In 1946, short time later he arrived in London, he published his first book «Towards Colonial Freedom» and it was in London where he actively participated in the National Secretary Office of West Africa.

In 1946, when he was in Ghana he established «Convention Peoples Party» and he won the elections with it in 1951. The sixth of March in 1957 Ghana obtained its independence. For Nkrumah that was the first step to African Revolution; as he said in his independence discourse:

«We have done with the battle and we again rededicate our-

selves in the struggle to emancipate other countries in Africa, for our independence is meaningless unless it is linked up with the total liberation of the African continent».

In the following years of independence, Accra becomes the center of African Revolution. But the internal difficulties injure the young republic and his first president. On February 1966, in absence of Nkrumah, the army gets the government.

Then begins Nkrumah's exile epoch, during which he publishes the book «Class Fight in Africa» where he defends his political evolution. In 1972, two years after publishing this book, he dies in Bucarest.

The article briefly exposes the fundamental discourse of Nkrumah thought for the construction of a new free society.

Geopolitics, border struggles and local wars in Latin America

During the last decades, we have seen an increase of the political and military tenseness among the Latin-American countries. The new situation is characterized by an acuteness of the geopolitical competition and the renewal of the territorial litigations. And also, we find the rise of the expansionists, aggressive tendencies, fomenting the acceleration of the arms race in the continent. In this paper, the background of the problem is studied and its main features nowadays are analyzed, proposing an interpretation of the phenomenon and its probable evolution.

In this paper, the following set of themes is developed: I. *The difficult regional balance*; II. *The geopolitical interests brought into play*: 1) The South Atlantic and The Antarctica; 2) The Rio de la Plata Basin; 3) The Amazonas Basin; 4) The Caribbean Basin III. *The Renewal of Historical Litigations*: 1) The Beagle Canal; 2) The Bolivian exit to the sea; 3) The Range of Mountains of El Condor; 4) The Gulf of Venezuela; 5) The Essequibo Basin; 6) The Archipelago of San Andrés y Providencia; 7) The «Football War»; 8) The «Cultural Unity of the Mayas».